

Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp:

Post-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within 30 days of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.

16 NOV 22 PM 12:11

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

- ☒ The original *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), AND
- ☒ A copy of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): The American Israeli Education Foundation

Travel date(s): August 13-12, 2016

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____

Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING DID NOT INCREASE DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Employee:

| | Transportation Expenses | Lodging Expenses | Meal Expenses | Other Expenses (Amount & Description) |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount | \$6,496.65 | \$1,651.89 | \$910.59 | \$3,445.50 |

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

| | Transportation Expenses | Lodging Expenses | Meal Expenses | Other Expenses (Amount & Description) |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount | | | | |

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.):

11/22/16
(Date)

Jonathan Kott
(Printed name of traveler)

[Signature]
(Signature of traveler)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

11/22/16
(Date)

[Signature]
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

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|----------|--|
| 9:45 AM | <i>Strategic Survey of Jerusalem – Part I: The Historic and Holy Basin:</i> Guided tour of the Old City of Jerusalem |
| 12:45 PM | Depart |
| 1:00 PM | <i>How Did We Get Here: Roots of Zionism Through The Present-Day</i> Lunch with Rabbi Dr. Daniel Gordis Senior Vice President, The Shalem College - at Piccolino |
| 2:30 PM | Depart |
| 2:45 PM | <i>Strategic Survey of Jerusalem – Part II:</i> Post-1967 Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier |
| 3:30 PM | Depart for the hotel |
| 3:45 PM | <i>Regional Instability and the Growing Threat of Hezbollah</i> Meeting with Dr. Jonathan Spyer Director, The Rubin Center Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya - at the hotel, Galil hall |
| 7:15 PM | Depart for dinner |
| 7:30 PM | <i>International Media Coverage of the Middle East</i> Dinner with Matti Friedman, Author and Journalist - at La Guta |
| 10:00 PM | Overnight at the Inbal Hotel |

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2016

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| 8:00 AM | Breakfast on own - at the hotel |
| 8:30 AM | Depart for Yad Vashem |
| 9:00 AM | <i>The Role of the Holocaust in Israeli Society</i> Guided tour of Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum |
| 11:00 AM | Depart |

11:30 AM *The Palestinian Street; Views and Changes in Palestinian Society*
Meeting with Saman Khoury, Member of the Palestinian National Council
- at the American Colony Hotel, Pasha Hall

| | |
|---------|---|
| 7:45 AM | Breakfast is served - at the hotel, Topaz hall |
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8:00 AM *Regional Threat Assessment*
Meeting Col. (Res) Avi Eliyahu
Former Intelligence Officer of the Southern Command
- at the hotel, Topaz hall

9:15 AM Depart

10:30 AM *Israel's Southern Border Concerns*
Strategic briefing at overlook into Gaza
- at Kibbutz Nir Am Lookout

11:15 AM Strategic tour of Israel's border with the Gaza Strip
Visit to the town of Sderot
▪ Kassam rockets "graveyard"

12:00 PM *Life in the Shadow of Rocket Fire*
Visit to Kibbutz Kfar Aza
Meeting with Chen Abrahams, local resident

1:00 PM Lunch
- at the Kibbutz Dining hall

2:00 PM Depart

3:30 PM Meeting with Oded Revivi, Mayor of Efrat
- at the hotel, Emerald C hall

4:30 PM *Israeli Democracy in Action*
Meetings with Members of Knesset:
▪ The Honorable Merav Michaeli, Zionist Union party
▪ The Honorable Amir Ohana, Likud party
- at the hotel, Emerald C hall

7:45 PM Depart for dinner

8:00 PM *Israelis from Different Walks of Life*
Liat Damoza, Jewish Agency for Israel
Imri Kalmann, The Aguda
Jacques Zimmerman, Noble Energy
- at Deca

10:00 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

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| 7:45 AM | Breakfast is served - at the hotel, Topaz hall |
| 8:00 AM | <i>New Media in the IDF</i> Breakfast with Lt. Col. Peter Lerner Spokesman for International Media and Commander of the IDF Social Media Activities - at the hotel, Topaz hall |
| 9:15 AM | Depart |
| 10:00 AM | <i>Israel's Narrow Waistline: Strategic Concerns</i> Briefing at Alfei Menashe |
| 10:30 AM | Depart |
| 11:30 AM | <i>Northern Exposure: Homeland Security</i> Visit IDF Eliakim training base |
| 12:45 PM | Depart |
| 1:00 PM | Lunch en route |
| 2:00 PM | Depart En route briefings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Jezreel Valley – The Strategic Land Bridge connecting Asia and Africa ▪ Upper Galilee – Potential for Development |
| 3:30 PM | <i>Israel's Northern Border Concerns – Part I:</i> Strategic briefing at the border with Lebanon With Maj. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi, Northern Border Expert - at Mt. Adir |
| 4:30 PM | Depart |
| 5:30 PM | Check into the Galei Kineret Hotel |
| 7:30 PM | Depart for dinner |

7:30 PM Depart for dinner

7:45 PM *Northern Exposure*
Israeli Life on the Border with Lebanon and Syria
Dinner and Discussion
- at Decks

10:00 PM Overnight at the Galei Kineret Hotel

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2016

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| 8:00 AM | Breakfast on own - at the hotel, Main Dining Hall |
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8:30 AM Depart

9:00 AM *Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee*
Tour of historical and religious sites around the Sea of Galilee

- Mt. of Beatitudes – Sermon on the Mount
St. Peter's Church – Primary of Peter
- Capernaum – Jesus' Village

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| 11:00 AM | Depart for the Golan Heights |
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12:00 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns – Part II:*
Strategic survey of Israel's border with Syria
With Cpt. (Res.) Ilan Shulman

1:00 PM Depart

1:15 PM Lunch
 - at Asado

3:00 PM Travel back to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley
En route briefings:

- Strategic Survey – Israel's Border with Jordan
- The Jordan Valley – Israel's Defensive Buffer Facing East

6:00 PM Check into the Inbal Hotel

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| 7:30 PM | Depart for dinner |
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8:00 PM *Reflections on the Sabbath*
Traditional Sabbath Eve dinner
With Tom and Susie Sawicki

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Travel Costs

Here are the final costs for your trip:

Transportation: \$6,496.65

Lodging: \$1,651.89

Meals: \$910.59

Other: \$3,445.50

Breakdown of "other" expenses:

Security: \$1,175.69 per person

Speaker Fees: \$600 per person

Travel Agency Commission: \$439.11 per person (single occupancy)

Tour Guide: \$322.41 per person

Tour Guide/Driver/Security Hotels: \$273.60 per person

Tour Guide/Driver/Security/Speaker Meals: \$182.17 per person

Room Rentals: \$240.30 per person

Other: \$60.03 per person

Entrance Fees: \$56.15 per person

Transportation for individualized tour of Syrian/Israel border: \$60.27

Transportation for guest speakers: \$28.55 per person

Tips: \$7.21 per person

United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS
HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 220
SECOND AND CONSTITUTION AVENUE, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6425

July 22, 2016

Jon Kott
Office of Senator Joe Manchin III
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Kott:

This responds to your recent letter concerning an invitation you received to travel to an educational seminar in Israel on August 13-21, 2016, sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF). AIEF certified to the Select Committee on Ethics (the Committee) that it will pay the *necessary expenses*¹ related to the travel and that it is neither a lobbyist, nor lobbying firm, nor an agent of a foreign principal, and it is not otherwise acting as a representative or agent of a foreign government. AIEF has also certified that it does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, and that no registered lobbyist will accompany you at *any point throughout your trip*.²

Based on information and materials available to the Committee, and assuming the **actual** travel and travel-related expenses conform to the information and materials you provided, it appears that the proposed payment or reimbursement of necessary expenses for this trip **may be accepted** under relevant Senate Rules and the Committee's *Regulations and Guidelines for Privately-Sponsored Travel*, so long as at the time of the payment or reimbursement, AIEF is neither a registered lobbyist nor lobbying firm under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, nor an agent of a foreign principal under the Foreign Agents Registration Act (and is not otherwise acting as a representative or agent of a foreign government), and provided the travel and all required documents are disclosed to the Secretary of the Senate in accordance with the provisions of Senate Rules 34 and 35.

Under Senate Rule 35, Senate staff must receive advance authorization signed by the Member or officer under whose direct supervision the individual works in order to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary expenses related to fact-finding travel. Further, such authorization and expenses must be disclosed to the Secretary of the Senate by filing the

¹ The term "necessary expenses" has a specific definition. See *Select Committee on Ethics' Regulations and Guidelines for Privately-Sponsored Travel – Glossary of Terms* at 8.

² The term "any point throughout your trip" has a specific definition. See *id.* at 2.

completed *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* and the *Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses* (Form RE-1 and Form RE-2), along with a copy of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form*, and all relevant attachments (e.g., the private sponsor's invitation and itinerary) **within 30 days of the conclusion of Privately-Sponsored Travel.**

Please be advised that the United States Constitution prohibits the acceptance of any gift, including a meal, from a foreign government without the consent of Congress. In the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), Congress consented to the acceptance by federal government officials of: (1) gifts of minimal value and (2) travel or the expenses for travel taking place entirely outside the United States, from a foreign government (which includes those acting as a representative or agent of a foreign government).³ The Senate has defined minimal value as less than \$100. Further, pursuant to the FGDA, there are certain reporting and procedural requirements that are imposed upon Members, officers, and employees who accept gifts from a foreign government. Please review the Committee's "Dear Colleague" letter of January 9, 2015 setting forth the items to be included in filing that report.

Finally, Senate Rule 34 requires a reporting individual,⁴ on his or her Financial Disclosure Report, to make an annual disclosure of the receipt of payments or reimbursements under Senate Rule 35 from a private sponsor for officially-related travel expenses where, in the aggregate, travel expenses exceed \$375 from that sponsor during a calendar year. However, if a Member, officer, or employee properly reports the receipt of necessary expenses for such travel to the Secretary of the Senate within 30 days of the travel, as discussed above, the travel expenses need not be disclosed a second time on their annual Financial Disclosure Report.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Committee.

Sincerely,



Deborah Sue Mayer
Chief Counsel and Staff Director

Enclosures: Travel Checklist

³ 5 U.S.C. § 7342.

⁴ A reporting individual is someone whose salary equals or exceeds 120% of the basic rate of pay for GS-15 (\$123,175 for CY 2016) or is a political fund designee and is required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Report.

EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics** in SH-220. Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved. This form **must** be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at ethics.senate.gov. Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Jon Kott

Employing Office/Committee: U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Travel date(s): August 13-21, 2016

*Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.*

Destination(s): Israel

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

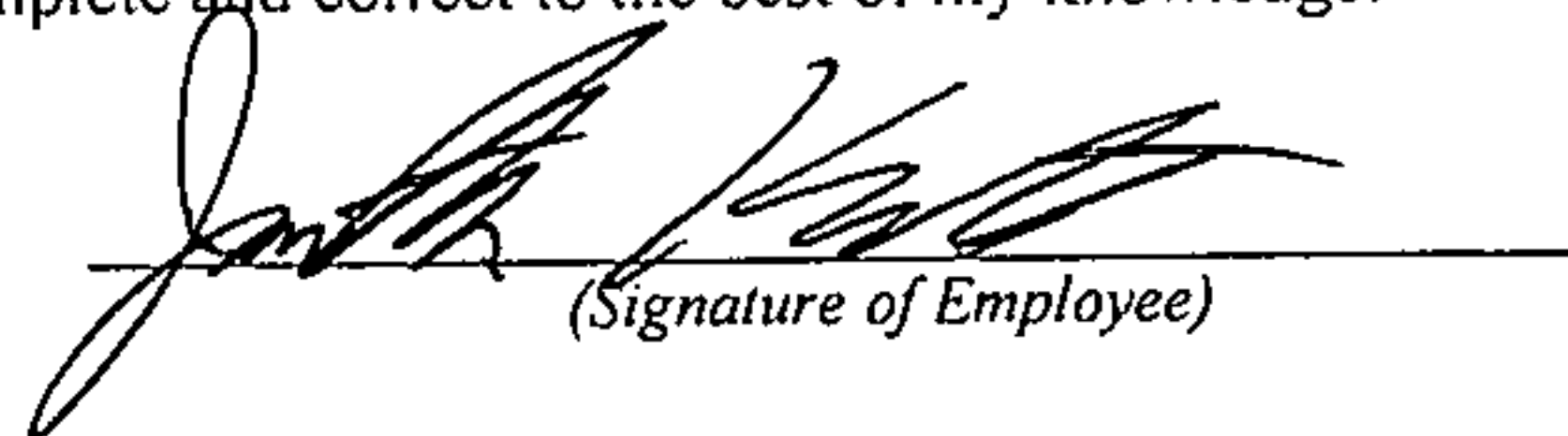
As Communications Director for Senator Joe Manchin III, who serves as a Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, I manage the Senator's communications and interactions with a large number of groups and policymakers whose interests are directly impacted by the U.S. government's relationship with Israel. This educational seminar has been organized to provide Senate Communications Directors with insight into the foreign policy and defense issues related to the U.S.-Israel relationship and will consist of discussions with Israeli government officials, military officers, Members of the Knesset, Palestinian representatives and U.S. officials.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____

Relationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge:

7/14/16
(Date)


(Signature of Employee)

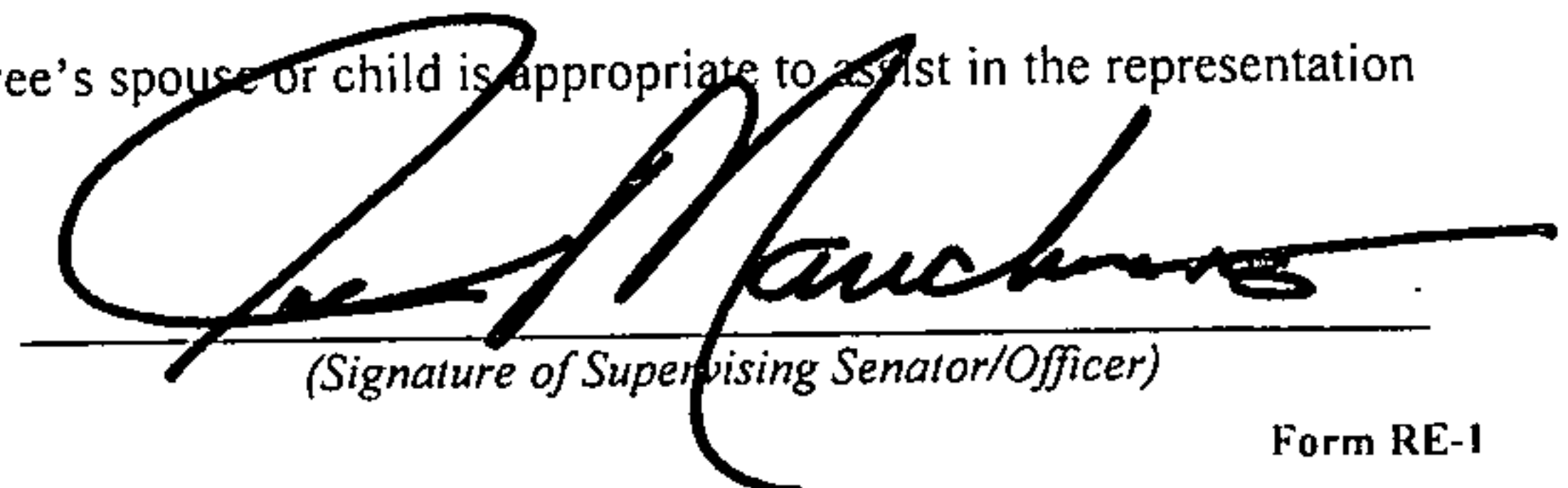
TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Senator Joe Manchin III hereby authorize Jon Kott
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name) (Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. (signify "yes" by checking box) ☐

7/14/16
(Date)


(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

Kott, Jonathan (Manchin)

From: Alex Stone <astone@aiefdn.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2016 5:21 PM
To: Kott, Jonathan (Manchin)
Subject: Please Join Us for an AIEF Educational Seminar in Israel: August 13-21



AMERICAN ISRAEL EDUCATION FOUNDATION

March 10, 2016

Jonathan Kott
Office of the Honorable Joe Manchin

Dear Jonathan,

We would like to invite you to join us for an educational seminar in Israel for senior congressional communications staff sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF). This trip will depart on Saturday, August 13 and return on Sunday, August 21.

The trip will explore critical foreign policy and national security challenges facing both Israel and the United States and how the two countries are cooperating in dealing with these issues. The program will include discussions with Israeli government officials, military officers, members of the Knesset, U.S. officials, Palestinian representatives and leading academics and journalists. The program will also include:

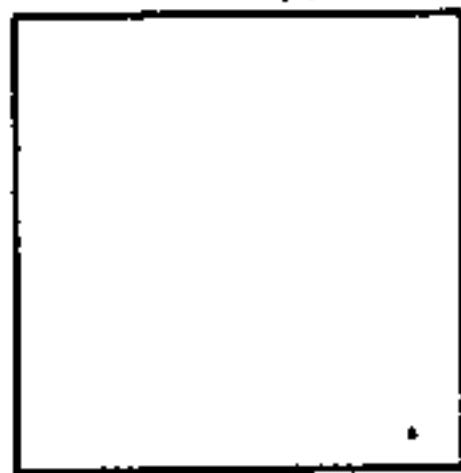
- Briefings on the strategic threats facing Israel including the Iranian nuclear program and instability on the Syrian border;
- A visit to Israel's Southern border and briefings on the threat posed by Hamas-controlled Gaza;
- In-depth discussions on the Israeli and Palestinian political climate and prospects for peace, as well as the political changes taking place in the region;
- Visits to historic and religious sites in Jerusalem and the Galilee.

No later than 30 days prior to departure, participants are responsible for

submitting two forms, as well as a copy of this invitation to the Senate Select Committee on Ethics. AIEF will provide you with a copy of the "Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form". You must also submit a completed and signed "Employee Pre-Travel Authorization Form" to the Committee. AIEF is committed to ensuring that every aspect of the trip complies with the Senate travel rules. If you have any specific questions about the rules, please contact the Senate Select Committee on Ethics.

We hope that you will be able to join us on what promises to be a rich, insightful and educational trip. If you have any questions, please contact Alex Stone at (202) 639-5311. To confirm your participation, please return the Participant Confirmation Form to astone@aiefdn.org.

Sincerely,



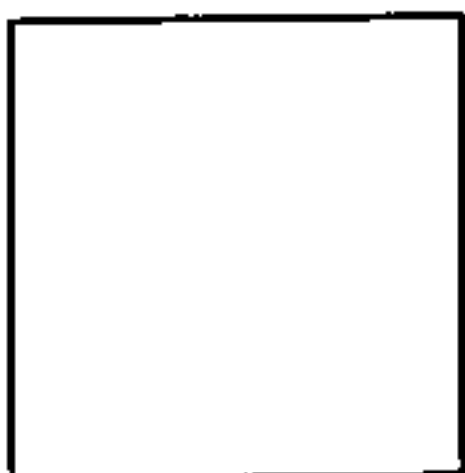
Richard Fishman
Executive Director, AIEF

AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming about the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIEF strives to provide qualitative and balanced educational symposia for members of Congress and congressional staff, leaders in the fields of politics and business and students. Established in 1990, AIEF has earned a reputation for producing informative and thought-provoking educational seminars in Israel.

AMERICAN ISRAELI EDUCATION FOUNDATION | The Charitable Organization affiliated with AIPAC
251 H Street, NW | Washington, DC 20001 | Phone: 202-619-5200 | Fax: 202-347-5232

[click here](#) to unsubscribe

251 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20001



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The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

- Private Sponsor Certification - Page 1 of 4

9.

I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

- ☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

- OR -

- ☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10*).

- OR -

- ☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

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If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming about the U.S.-Israel relationship.

Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

Please see attached

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

Please see attached

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

| | Transportation Expenses | Lodging Expenses | Meal Expenses | Other Expenses |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate | \$6,107.63 | \$1,725 | \$1000 | \$3,216.88 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts | | | | |

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate congressional staff about the U.S.-Israel relationship.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Inbal Jerusalem \$295 per night; Sheraton Tel Aviv \$300 per night; Galei Kinneret Tiberias \$240 per night

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

location and affordability

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Please see attached

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:


Participants will be traveling business class on a commercial airline.

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

n/a

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (You must include the completed signature block below for each travel sponsor.):

Signature of Travel Sponsor: 

Name and Title: Richard Fishman, Executive Director

Name of Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

Telephone Number: (202) 639-5233

Fax Number: n/a

E-mail Address: rfishman@aiefdn.org

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Communications Staff
August 13-21, 2016

Senate Invitees

1. Kevin Bishop, Communications Director, Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC)
2. John Cummins, Communications Director, Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA)
3. Jon Kott, Communications Director, Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV)
4. Meghan Pennington, Communications Director, Senator Tom Carper (D-DE)
5. Sarah Rothschild, Communications Director, Senator Joe Donnelly (D-IN)

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2016

Evening Arrive at JFK

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2016

11:00 PM Overnight at the Inbal Hotel

8:15 AM *Regional Instability and the Growing Threat of Hezbollah*
Breakfast with Jonathan Spyer
Middle East Analyst and Journalist, *The Jerusalem Post*
Director, The Rubin Center Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya
- at the hotel

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| 12:45 PM | Depart |
| 1:00 PM | <i>The Jewish Connection to the Land of Israel: The Roots of Zionism Through the Present Day</i> Lunch with Yossi Klein Halevy - at Medita |
| 2:30 PM | Depart |
| 2:45 PM | <i>Strategic Tour of Jerusalem, Part Two: Part II: Jerusalem's Outlying Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier</i> |

When Jerusalem was reunified in 1967, following 19 years of division, the State of Israel extended the city's boundaries to include the strategic hills surrounding Jerusalem. These hills served as launching pads between 1948-1967 for sniper and mortar attacks on Israeli parts of the city by the Jordanian Army. Since 1967, these hills have become vibrant neighborhoods, fully integrated into the fabric of Jerusalem. It is vital for those discussing the issue of Jerusalem to understand these neighborhoods' strategic importance and their relationship to the areas in the immediate vicinity.

Security Barrier

After scores of suicide bombings and daily terrorist attacks against its civilians launched following the breakdown of the Camp David II talks, Israel began construction of a security barrier near the pre-1967 "Green Line" between Israel and the West Bank to prevent Palestinian terrorists from infiltrating into Israeli population centers. Since its construction began, the number of attacks declined by more than 90% and the number of Israelis murdered and wounded decreased by more than 70% and 85%, respectively. The barrier is approximately 455 miles long. To Israel, the security barrier serves as a necessary obstacle to protect its people. To the Palestinians and others in the world, the barrier represents a physical and symbolic divide.

This seminar will survey the security barrier at different points along its route to see first-hand the barrier's construction, the operation of crossing points in and out of Palestinian areas, and the technology that facilitates its operation. Both en route to the barrier and at the barrier itself, the group will explore the competing arguments raised by the Israelis, Palestinians and the international community.

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| 3:45 PM | Return to the hotel |
| 7:30 PM | Depart for dinner |
| 7:45 PM | <i>International Media Coverage of the Middle East</i> Dinner with Matti Friedman Author and Journalist -at La Guta |

Matti Friedman

This dinner features Matti Friedman, a renowned reporter with a career that has taken him from Lebanon to Morocco, Cairo, Moscow and Washington, D.C., and to conflicts in Israel in the Caucasus. Mr. Friedman is a dynamic and insightful speaker who will provide the group an illuminating synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli citizens.

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| 10:00 PM | Return to the hotel |
| 10:30 PM | Overnight at the Inbal Hotel |

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2016

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| 7:30 AM | Breakfast on own in the main dining room Luggage in the lobby Check out |
| 8:30 AM | Depart for Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum |

9:00 AM

The Meaning of the Holocaust in the Israeli Psyche
Guided tour of Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

Yad Vashem

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear development program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state. The museum's professional docent will guide the group through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

11:00 AM

Depart

11:30 AM

The Palestinian Perspective
Views and Changes in Palestinian Society
Meeting with a Representative of the Palestinian Authority,
Negotiations Support Unit
- at the American Colony Hotel, Pasha room

12:45 PM

Depart

1:15 PM

Behind the Headlines
Lunch with Khaled Abu Toameh
Palestinian Affairs Correspondent, *The Jerusalem Post*
- at Aluma

2:30 PM

Depart

2:45 PM *A View from the Opposition*
 Meeting with Communications Advisor of
 The Office of Issac Herzog
 Head of the Zionist Union, Opposition Leader
 - at the Crowne Plaza Hotel

3:30 PM *A View from the Prime Minister's Office*
 Meeting with David Keyes
 Communications Advisor and Foreign Press Liaison
 Prime Minister's Office
 - at the Crowne Plaza Hotel

4:15 PM Depart to Tel Aviv

5:45 PM Arrive at hotel

7:45 PM Depart for Dinner

8:00 PM *Israel's Political System*
 Dinner with:
 Lior Chorev, Political Consultant
 Dr. Dahlia Scheindlin, Political Consultant for the Labor party
 Aharon Shaviv, Political consultant for Likud party
 - at Lumina

Israel's Political System

This dinner will feature three political consultants who work closely with Israeli political leaders and parties. The program this evening will give trip participants an insider's view of Israel's unique parliamentary system, the multitude of political parties, and coalition politics.

10:00 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Hotel

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2016

7:00 AM Luggage in the lobby
 Check out

7:45 AM Breakfast served

8:00 AM *Regional Threats Overview*
 Breakfast with Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel
 Immediate Past Director, Counter Terrorism Bureau
 Office of the Prime Minister
 -at the hotel

9:15 AM Depart for Israel's south

Israel's Southern Front

Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines. The visit to Kibbutz Kfar Azza and meeting with a local resident will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep.

10:30 AM *Israel's Southern Front*
Overlook into the Gaza Strip
- at Kibbutz Nir Am Lookout

11:00 AM Depart

11:15 AM *Strategic tour of Israel's border with the Gaza Strip*

- Visit to the town of Sderot
- Kassam rockets "graveyard"

12:00 PM *Living with the Threat of Rocket Fire*
Visit to Kibbutz Kfar Aza on the border with the Gaza Strip

- Meeting with Chen Abraham, local resident

1:00 PM Lunch with Kibbutz residents
- at the Kibbutz Kfar Aza dining hall

2:00 PM Depart

3:30 PM *Start-Up Nation*
Coffee with:

- Cpt. (Res.) Eytan Buchman, Freightos
- Gilad Japhet, Founder and CEO, MyHeritage
- Amnon Shashua, Founder and CEO, Mobileye

- at the hotel

Start-Up Nation

Israel is a giant when it comes to innovation: a global leader in R&D spending and VC investment, and home to global R&D centers for the likes of Google, Apple and IBM. This evening's Start-Up Nation dinner will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

7:45 PM Depart for dinner

8:00 PM

Israelis from Different Walks of Life

Dinner with

LiaT Damoza, Donor Mission Coordinator

Resource Development and Public Affairs, Jewish Agency for Israel

Dan Slyper, LGBT Caucus, Yesh Atid

Bini Zomer, Noble Energy

- at Deca

Israelis from Different Walks of Life

"The Different Walks of Life" will be a dinner discussion with Israelis representing some of the various societal sectors – all integral parts of the fabric of Israeli society and broader identity. The evening will be an opportunity to gain insight into the Israeli population as a whole, what governs the perspective and decisions of various sectors and to explore how each of the sectors represented fits into Israeli society and informs the collective national narrative.

10:00 PM

Overnight at the Sheraton Hotel

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2016

7:00 AM

Luggage in the lobby

Check out

7:45 AM

Breakfast served

8:00 AM

New Media in the IDF

Breakfast with Lt. Col. Peter Lerner

Spokesman for International Media and

Commander of the IDF Social Media activities

- at the hotel

9:15 AM

Depart, travel north

10:00 AM

Israel's Narrow Waistline

Briefing at the Alfei Menashe overlook

Alfei Menashe

Alfei Menashe is a Jewish community located on the western edge of the West Bank. Less than 10 miles from the Mediterranean Sea, Alfei Menashe provides a unique vantage point to discuss Israeli settlement policy, the routing of the security barrier, as well as Israel's narrow waistline.

The sliver of Israeli land west of the West Bank is often referred to as the Hadera-Gadera rectangle, with the city of Hadera denoting the northern point, and the city of Gadera the southern point. The Hadera-Gadera rectangle is home to over 50% of Israel's population, as well as civilian infrastructure. The area is also home to Israel's "silicon valley", as well as Ben Gurion international airport.

The discussion at Alfei Menashe will allow participants to see firsthand the proximity of Jewish and Arab neighborhoods in both Israel and the West Bank; as well as the strategic threats faced by the Israeli population living in Israel's narrow waistline.

10:30 AM Depart

11:30 AM *Northern Exposure:*
Homeland Security Preparation in a Time of Instability
Visit IDF Northern Command training base

1:00 PM Depart

En route briefings:
The Jezreel Valley –
the Strategic Land Bridge Connecting Asia and Africa
Upper Galilee Region – Potential for Development

Lunch en route

Our tour guide will spend an hour during the drive from Israel's center to the North to provide the delegation a briefing on the Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee and the challenges facing these regions of the country.

The Jezreel Valley

In 1948, following Israel's establishment, the combined forces of Iraq and Jordan attempted unsuccessfully to capture the Jezreel Valley in order to split the just-born Israel into two parts. In the early 20th century, after decades of neglect, Jewish pioneers drained the swamps in the valley, transforming this region into Israel's "breadbasket," which has become known for its wheat, cotton, sunflowers and fish ponds

Today it is an important symbol of Israel's complex and diverse political reality. The Jezreel Valley, together with the areas of the Lower and Upper Galilee, is home to the majority of Israel's Arab citizens. A tour of this area provides an opportunity to discuss and learn about Israel's Arab citizens – 20 percent of the population – each of which has full democratic, social and welfare rights, the right to vote and serve in the Knesset, and the opportunity to serve on Israel's Supreme Court. These issues are not widely known and this segment gives trip participants the opportunity to understand Israel's relationship with its largest minority group.

Upper Galilee

The Upper Galilee is home to the largest variety of ethnic communities in Israel including Druze, Circassian, Arab Muslim and Arab Christian villages. The Galilee is also home to ancient Jewish and Christian holy sites that provide additional historical and political context to regional tensions. Just as in the case of the Jezreel Valley, the area illustrates the role of minorities in Israel.

A view of these sites provides the tour guide an opportunity to illustrate how Israel maintains religious freedom and the sanctity of all holy sites. It also provides another lens through which to view the depth to which the land of Israel – and the current conflicts dividing the region – are inextricably linked to the spiritual narratives of three great religions.

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| 11:00 AM | Depart |
| 12:00 PM | <i>Israel's Northern Border Concerns – Part Two</i> Strategic tour of Israel's border with Syria - at Ein Zivan |
| 1:30 PM | Lunch - at Habokrim |
| 3:00 PM | Travel back to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley En route briefings: <i>Israel's Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan</i> <i>Jordan's Syrian Refugees Crisis</i> |

The tour guide will spend approximately an hour during the drive through the Jordan Valley to explore several topics related to Israel's eastern neighbor: specifically, Israeli-Jordanian strategic cooperation, as well as the implications of the Syrian civil war on the Kingdom.

Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan became the second Arab country after Egypt to recognize Israel when it signed a comprehensive peace agreement that ended nearly five decades of warfare. Shepherded by United States President Bill Clinton, the accord signed on Oct. 6, 1994, marked the onset of a new era of economic, cultural, and political dialogue and cooperation between the two countries.

In recent years, the two countries have worked together to combat the increased threat from terrorism by coordinating their security efforts and preventing infiltrations across their shared border. Today, Jordan hosts over one million Syrian refugees fleeing civil war. Following our discussion with Israeli soldiers patrolling the Syrian border, our guide will address how the influx of Syrian refugees and the threats in the region impact Jordan internally; as well as relations and further potential for strategic partnership between Jordan, the United States, and Israel.

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| 6:00 PM | Check in to the Inbal Hotel |
| 7:30 PM | Depart for dinner <i>Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem</i> Traditional Sabbath Eve dinner At the home of Wendy and Saul Singer |

The Sabbath in Jerusalem

Israel, the only Jewish country in the world, boasts the unique tradition of honoring the Jewish Sabbath from Friday sundown until Saturday sundown. 80% of the Israeli population will commemorate the Sabbath, in various forms, which typically include a family dinner and special blessings. The Sabbath is especially significant in Jerusalem, home to the holiest site for Jews worldwide - the remains of the First and Second Temple.

The dinner will include a discussion on the importance of Jerusalem to the Jewish, Christian and Muslim populations; the potential for a final status agreement on Jerusalem (arguably the most sensitive final status issue); and the diplomatic challenges faced by Israel and the United States regarding Israeli urban development in the area.

10:00 PM Overnight at the Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2016

8:00 AM Breakfast on own
 - at the hotel, main dining room

8:30 AM Depart for the Dead Sea region

En route briefing:
Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor: Strategic Concerns

Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor

On the drive from Jerusalem to Masada, the group will travel on the highway known as the "Jericho Road" is the strategic importance of the area east of Jerusalem. In 1948 and in 1967, the Jordanian army attacked Jerusalem from the east – the 1948 attack resulted in the city's division that lasted until 1967. Since then Israel has established the City of Ma'ale Adumim east of Jerusalem, today home to some 40,000 residents. To the Palestinians, however, Ma'ale Adumim is the largest settlement on the West Bank. When Israel attempted to expand Ma'ale Adumim's boundary, into an area known as "E-1", the U.S. State Department stepped in and asked that no construction take place there. The issue needs to be examined with those discussing the future of Jerusalem in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

10:00 AM *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*
 Guided tour of the National Archeological Park at Masada

Masada

The Sabbath in Israel begins Friday afternoon and concludes on Saturday evening. During the Sabbath, virtually everything in the country is closed including all government offices, businesses, newspapers etc. Therefore, for years, we have used Fridays Saturdays to expose our Congressional Members and staff delegations to some of the key historical and cultural sites in Israel such as Masada. Masada, which was excavated in the 1960s, is considered one of the most important archeological sites in Israel, indeed in the whole world.

Masada was the site of the last stand of the Jews in Israel after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Holy Temple in 70 A.D. A group of Jewish Zealots fled to the Judean Desert and lived in the former mountaintop fortress of King Herod known as Masada for two years resisting the onslaught of the most powerful army in the world. Determined to break the resistance, the Romans finally scaled the mountain to capture and enslave the Jewish rebels. However, when they finally arrived, they found that all the men, women and children had killed themselves as a last act of defiance. They refused to give in to the Romans and become their slaves.

The ancient story of Masada has important contemporary relevance for the modern State of Israel. "Masada shall never fall again" has become the watchword of the country which has faced existential threats since its founding in 1948. Israel's elite military units, for example, are sworn in on top of Masada in a symbolic act of defiance against Israel's contemporary enemies. These soldiers along with the thousands of Israeli school children who visit Masada each year learn the lesson that Israel should never become so weak again that it would ever face national suicide as an option.

We will spend approximately two hours atop of Masada with a professional guide. The time at Masada with the guide is focused on three areas: 1. touring the magnificent ancient excavations; 2. learning the narrative of Jewish resistance to the Romans backed by the archeological and historical evidence; 3. discussing the importance of the Masada story to the contemporary Middle East and the threats in the region.

12:15 PM Depart

12:30 PM *Israel's Experience in Fighting the Encroachment of Desertification*
Visit to the Dead Sea and lunch
-at Herods

Dead Sea Region

During our drive to and from the Dead Sea area, as well as during our visit to the Dead Sea, our tour guide will discuss a variety of issues integral to understanding the region, the country, and relations with both the Palestinians and Jordanians.

It is important to note that the region is mostly desert. For decades, Israel has been challenging this arid area and developing its agricultural potential. While the Middle East is suffering from water shortages, Israel, through modern technology and water conservation policies, including the recycling of over 80 percent of water used for domestic purposes and transferring it to agriculture, has literally "made the desert bloom." Some of this technology is already being shared with Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. All sides realize that a comprehensive regional water policy will ensure food production necessary to satisfy the Middle East's growing population. For example, in late 2013, the three parties agreed to build a Red Sea-Dead Sea water project to address the shortage of fresh, clean water in the region and the rapid loss of water at the Dead Sea. This highlights the growing importance for Israel and her Arab neighbors to work together on joint environmental projects.

